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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/516,550	12/02/2004	Jacobus Johannes Chretien Coumans	NL 020466	8388
24737	7590	09/12/2007		
PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS P.O. BOX 3001 BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510				
			EXAMINER HINES, ANNE M	
			ART UNIT 2879	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 09/12/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/516,550

Applicant(s)

COUMANS ET AL.

Examiner

Anne M. Hines

Art Unit

2879

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 July 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 5, 7 and 8 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2, 3 and 6 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 December 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on July 24, 2007 has been entered.

Claims 1-8 are pending in the instant application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1 and 4 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kiesel et al. (US 4777404) (of record) in view of Charles et al. (GB 688859) (of record).

Regarding claim 1, Kiesel teaches an electric lamp comprising a glass lamp vessel which is closed in a gastight manner by means of a seal and which contains an electric element (2, 4, & 7; Column 2, lines 50-61), current conductors made at least partly of molybdenum and connected to the electric element (5 & 6; Column 2, lines 55-56) with two contact pins made of an iron-nickel-chromium alloy connected from the

molybdenum portion that extend from the molybdenum inner current supply leads which conductors are partly embedded in the seal and extend to the outside of the lamp (7 & 8; Column 2, lines 62-65). Kiesel fails to teach wherein the portions of the current conductors in contact with the atmosphere outside the lamp are of a material chosen from the group formed by chromium-manganese, chromium-cobalt, and chromium-boron alloys, as required by claim 1, or wherein the alloy comprises chromium-manganese, as required by claim 4.

In the same field of endeavor of glass to metal seals for electric filament lamps (Page 2, lines 91-95), Charles teaches wherein a chromium-cobalt-manganese alloy (Page 2, lines 75-80) is used in place of a chromium-iron alloys in glass to metal seals because chromium-iron alloys can cause cracking and stripping of the glass due to differences between the thermal expansion rates of the glass and the metal (Page 1, lines 42-78) whereas chromium-iron-cobalt alloys result in an adhesive seal where excessive stress does not build and cracking is prevented (Page 1, line 79 to Page 2, line 4).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the invention of Kiesel to have the current supply leads made of a chromium-cobalt-manganese alloy in order to have an adhesive seal where excessive stress does not build and cracking is prevented.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2-3 and 6 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 5 and 7-8 are allowed.

Regarding independent claim 5, the references of the Prior Art of record fail to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 5, and specifically comprising the limitation wherein current conductors partly embedded in the seal of an electric lamp has the portions exposed to the atmosphere outside the lamp provided with means for protection against oxidation and the means for protection against oxidation is a coating that is chosen from the group of materials formed by chromium-manganese, chromium-cobalt, chromium-iron, and chromium-boron alloys and wherein the coating has a layer thickness of at least 1 μm and at most 6 μm .

Regarding independent claim 7, the references of the Prior Art of record fail to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 7, and specifically comprising the limitation wherein current conductors are provided with a means for protection against oxidation chosen from the group of materials formed by chromium-manganese, chromium-cobalt, chromium-iron, and chromium-boron alloys, characterized in that the alloy contains 80 to 99 atom percents of chromium.

Regarding claim 8, claim 8 is allowable for the reasons given in claim 7 because of its dependency status from claim 8.

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Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anne M. Hines whose telephone number is (571) 272-2285. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimesh Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Anne M Hines
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2879


MARICELI SANTIAGO
PRIMARY EXAMINER